MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : That does not arise.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): My object in asking this question is to bring to the notice of Government that there will be enough funds for the construction of these two bridges.

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : ചെങ്ങന്നൂർനിന്നും പാണ്ടനാട്ടുക്കുടിയുള്ള മാന്നാർ റോഡിൽ പല ബ്രീച്ചസും ഉള്ളതായി മെമ്പക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I am aware of the breaches.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. The member is talking in English as well as in Malayalam

PRESIDENT : I have allowed him.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെ എത്ര ബ്രീച്ചസ്സ് ഉള്ളതായിട്ടാണ് മെമ്പക്കറിയാവുന്നത്?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : I claim notice.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : ഈ ബ്രീച്ചസ് സ്ഥിരമായി അടയ്ക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഈ റോഡു സംരക്ഷണത്തിനുള്ള ചിലവിൽ ഗണ്യമായ ലാഭം ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നു മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): It will not make any difference regarding the cost of making roads.

Floods in Kuttanad.

47*. MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware of heavy floods this year in the Kuttanad region ;

(*b*) how have such floods affected the *Virippu* cultivation in the said region ;

(*c*) if crops have been destroyed by the floods, will that fact be taken into account in realising the land revenue ; and

(*d*) what steps, if any, have been taken by the Government to alleviate the damages and distress arising from the floods ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The *Viruppu* cultivation in some of the *Pakuthies* is reported to have been affected to some extent.

(*c*) In cases where there has been complete failure of crops, this fact will be taken into account in realising the tax.

(*d*) Rice was distributed to the really poor in the flood-affected areas during the flood season. Detailed reports on the damages caused by the recent floods, the relief already given and to be given

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

hereafter in the various taluks affected by the floods, have been called for. The extent of damages caused is being ascertained and on receipt of full information, the matter will be taken up for consideration by the Government.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): When did the Government get information about the occurrence of the floods?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Soon after its occurrence, the Dewan Peishkar reported the matter.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I know whether, when the floods were on, the local authorities informed Government of the occurrence of the floods?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commisioner*): The local officers?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Yes.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say whether the Government were informed of the floods when the floods were on or immediately afterwards. But reports of the floods were received immediately after the floods were on.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Do the Government consider that timely information was submitted to them by the local officers?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Whether the Government received timely information or not, the local officers took timely action to give relief to the people.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Was it with the sanction of Government that such immediate relief was afforded by the local officers?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): In such cases of emergency, the local officers anticipate the sanction of Government and do the needful.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Was any such relief actually afforded, in anticipation of Government sanction, by the local officers?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is what the Dewan Peishkar reports.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): When was the first recurrence of the floods?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Somewhere in Edavom; I cannot give the date.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): When was relief first granted by the local officers?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Page 2

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That information is not available. But, the Dewan Peishkar reports that, as soon as necessity for relief was felt, it was given by the local officers.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Was any information submitted to Government by the non-officials?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have no information about that.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): As a permanent remedy to minimise the havoc done by the floods, will the Government consider the feasibility of making a road connecting Ambalapuzha taluk with Tiruvalla taluk?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know whether that will help to mitigate floods. Anyhow, that is a matter to be considered by Government.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): Does the member know that there have been floods in North Travancore?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissione.*): Yes.

MR. V. RAMAKRISHNA PANICKAR (*Kartikapalli II*): May I know whether there is any Government record defining the limits of Kuttanad?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

Statham Committee Report.

48*. **MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Ambalapuzha I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have made arrangements to print and publish the Statham Committee's Report;

(*b*) whether they would afford an opportunity to the Assembly for an expression of its views on the said Report before final orders are passed on it by Government.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) This may not be practicable. Copies of the Report will be placed before the Assembly.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Will the Government be pleased to state why it is not practicable to afford an opportunity for this Assembly to discuss the Statham Committee Report?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are some minor recommendations in the Report on which urgent action has to be taken, and since the Assembly may meet next only two or three months hence, it may not be practicable to await the consideration by the Assembly in regard to all the recommendations of the Report. But Government hope to allow the House an opportunity to discuss the major recommendations of the Committee.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Have the Government gone through the Report?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly